

REMARKS

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Claims 1-22 and 24-29 are now present in this application. Claims 1, 25 and 29 are independent. Amendments have been made to claims 10, 18, 19, 22, 25, 26 and 29. Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Information Disclosure Citation

Applicants thank the Examiner for considering the references supplied with the three Information Disclosure Statements filed in the present application, and for providing Applicants with initialed copies of the PTO-1449 or PTO-SB08 forms filed therewith. No outstanding issues remain with respect to the Information Disclosure Statements.

Drawings

Since no objection has been received, Applicants assume that the drawings are acceptable and that no further action is necessary. Confirmation in the Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Claim Amendments

Applicants have amended claims 18, 19, 25 and 29 to change “zips” to --zippers--, and have amended claims 22 and 26 to change “zip” to --zipper--, in response to the Examiner’s objection. Applicants have also amended claim 10 to correct a typographical error. The claim amendments are not being made in response to any statutory requirement for patentability, and have not been narrowed in scope. Instead, the claims have been amended merely to recite the subject matter therein more clearly.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 1-18, 20-22 and 24 are allowed, and that claims 19 and 25-29 would be allowable if amended. Since claims 19, 22, 25, 26 and 29

have been amended, claims 19 and 25-29 should now be allowable over the Examiner's objection as set forth above.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

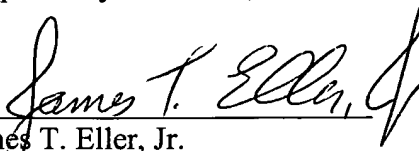
If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone James T. Eller, Jr., Registration No. 39,538, at (703) 205-8000, in the Washington, D.C. area.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: July 31, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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